

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. through 18. (cancelled).

19. (new): A printing apparatus comprising:

a print head having a plurality of nozzles for ejecting ink to form dots, wherein said print head has a first nozzle row for ejecting ink having color material and a second nozzle row for ejecting ink not having color material;

wherein a number per unit area of droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row, is less than a number per unit area of droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row; and

wherein an amount of said ink not having color material nor black material that is discharged is determined according to an amount of said ink having color material that is discharged.

20. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein

a number of said droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row, per unit length in a main scanning direction is less than a number of said

droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row, per unit length in the main scanning direction.

21. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein
a number of said droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row, per unit length in a sub-scanning direction is less than a number of said droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row, per unit length in the sub-scanning direction.

22. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein
a number of nozzles making up said second nozzle row is less than a number of nozzles making up said first nozzle row.

23. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein
the nozzles making up said first and said second nozzle rows are arranged with a predetermined spacing between adjacent nozzles; and
scanning is carried out by partially overlapping scanning paths of said print head such that a gap created due to said spacing is filled in.

24. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein:
said ink having color material is a pigment-based ink; and

said ink not having color material includes a component for increasing a degree of luster.

25. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein

dots of said ink not having color material are formed at an area where a density of dots of said ink having color material is low in accordance with that density.

26. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein:

said ink not having color material includes a component for preventing bleeding of said ink having color material; and

dots of said ink not having color material are formed at an area where a density of dots of said ink having color material is high in accordance with that density.

27. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein

a nozzle group making up said first nozzle row and a nozzle group making up said second nozzle row are arranged such that they are misaligned in a sub-scanning direction by a fixed distance.

28. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein

a nozzle group making up said first nozzle row and a nozzle group making up said second nozzle row are arranged such that they are in a same position in a sub-scanning direction.

29. (new): A printing method employing a print head having a plurality of nozzles for ejecting ink to form dots, said print head having a first nozzle row for ejecting ink having color material and a second nozzle row for ejecting ink not having color material, said method comprising:

a step of discharging droplets of said ink having color material using said first nozzle row; and

a step of discharging droplets of said ink not having color material using said second nozzle row;

wherein a number per unit area of said droplets of said ink not having color material, which are discharged by said second nozzle row, is less than a number per unit area of said droplets of said ink having color material, which are discharged by said first nozzle row; and

wherein an amount of said ink not having color material nor black material that is discharged is determined according to an amount of said ink having color material that is discharged.

30. (new): A printing method for performing printing on a medium, comprising:

a step of discharging droplets of ink having color material to a medium at a predetermined resolution; and

a step of discharging droplets of ink not having color material to the medium at a resolution that is different from said predetermined resolution;

a step of determining an amount of said ink not having color material that is discharged according to an amount of said ink having color material tat is discharged.

31. (new): A printing method according to claim 30, wherein
said droplets of said ink not having color material are discharged to the medium at a resolution that is lower than said predetermined resolution.

32. (new): A printing apparatus comprising
a print head for ejecting ink to form dots, wherein said print head includes:
a first nozzle row for discharging droplets of ink having color material to a medium at a predetermined resolution; and

a second nozzle row for discharging droplets of ink not having color material to the medium at a resolution that is different from said predetermined resolution;

wherein an amount of said ink not having color material nor black material that is discharged is determined according to an amount of said ink having color material that is discharged.

33. (new): A printing apparatus according to claim 32, wherein
said second nozzle row discharges said droplets of said ink not having color material to the medium at a resolution that is lower than said predetermined resolution.